



**NOAA  
FISHERIES**

Office of  
Management  
and Budget

# Overview of the SK FY 2016 Grant Process Role of Councils and Commissions

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# The Saltonstall-Kennedy Act

## Promote and Develop (P&D)

- The Saltonstall-Kennedy Program began in 1954
- Funding is derived from a transfer from the Department of Agriculture to NOAA from duties on imported fishery products
- 30% of duties collected are made available to NOAA and placed in the Promote and Develop Account
- Since 1979, Congress has used a portion of P&D funds to offset funding for other NOAA programs in the annual appropriation
- Funds left in the P&D account after the offset remain available for the S-K Program
- NOAA runs both a competitive and national S-K program
- Funds are to be used to support the US fishing industry through Research and Development

# The Saltonstall-Kennedy Grant Program

- Objective: address the needs of fishing communities in optimizing economic benefits within the context of rebuilding and maintaining sustainable fisheries and practices, and in dealing with the impacts of conservation and management measures
- NMFS seeks applications that demonstrate direct benefits to the U.S. fishing industries and encourages proposals that involve fishing community participation
- Priorities are set yearly by NOAA/NMFS
  - Thank you all for your help during this process
- Proposals are peer reviewed

# The 2013 Saltonstall-Kennedy Grant Program

- In July of 2013, NOAA Fisheries announced the availability of funding for a 2013 Competitive S-K program
- Funds were obligated in the third and fourth quarter of FY14
- 250 applications were received
- 40 applications funded totaling ~\$10.5M

# The 2013 S-K Priorities

- Aquaculture
- Optimum Utilization of Harvested Resources
- Fisheries Socioeconomics
- Conservation Engineering
- Ecosystem Studies
- Territorial Science

# The 2014 - 2015 Saltonstall-Kennedy Grant Program

- NMFS combined the FY14 and FY15 Competitive grants solicitations
- Funds were obligated in the third and fourth quarter of FY15
- 285 applications were received
- NMFS approved 88 awards for more than \$25M

# FY 14/15 S-K Themes and Priorities

- Maximize Fishing Opportunities and Jobs
- Improve the Cost-Effectiveness and Capacity for Observations
- Increase the Supply, Quality, and Diversification of Domestic Seafood
- Improve the Quality and Quantity of Fishery Information from the U.S. Territories

# FY 16 S-K Process

- NMFS announced the FY16 Competitive Program via Grants.gov on September 4, 2015
- ~ \$10M worth of applications will be funded in the third and fourth quarter of FY16
- The Request for Applications Closed on November 2, 2015 and received 325 eligible applications
- Approximately \$76M worth of applications were received
- 975 Technical Reviews were obtained and are due to NMFS on or before February 17, 2016



# FY 16 S-K Priorities

7 Priorities were identified for the FY16 Competition

- Aquaculture
- Fisheries Data Collection
- Techniques for Reducing ByCatch and Other Adverse Impacts
- Adapting to Climate Change and Other Long Term Ecosystem Change
- Promotion, Development and Marketing
- Socio-Economic Research
- Territorial Science

# Selection Process:

## How are Applications Evaluated?

- All Applications are reviewed for merit as outlined in the FFO
- The following Evaluation Criteria are discussed in the FFO:
  - Importance/ Relevance
  - Technical/ Scientific Merit
  - Qualifications of the applicants
  - Project Costs
  - Outreach and Education

# Next Steps and Council Involvement

- 325 applications undergoing a minimum of 3 merit reviews
- After all reviews have been conducted applications will be placed in rank order
- A cutoff score will be determined
- Applications above the cutoff line will move to constituent panels for evaluation
- Based on the results of the panel a recommended selection package will be submitted to the Assistant Administrator of Fisheries for review and approval

# How can the Councils Help?

- Creation of Priorities
- Identifying potential reviewers
- Nominating subject matter experts for constituent panels
- Review of initial rank order to ensure proper diversity
- Helping with outreach and education throughout the process

# Questions?

